



China is **showcasing** low-carbon technologies for the green Winter Olympics; however, there's strong criticism over the environmental impact of the Games.

Beijing announced plans to run a carbon-negative Winter Games. It will use technologies such as natural refrigeration at ice rinks or venues powered by wind farms. According to officials, the Games are a driving force to improve the environment. China is the world's biggest polluter, and it wants to show off its leadership in climate-friendly technology.

However, environmentalists complained about the excessive use of artificial snow. For months, hundreds of snow generators created snow in **arid** mountains that receive little natural snow and have little water. Officials claimed the snow generators used the most advanced systems for international **sustainability** requirements.

Difficult words: **showcase** (to show the best qualities or parts of something), **arid** (dry), **sustainability** (the idea that people can make goods and services should without damage to the environment, and therefore they can continue for a long time).

Discussion Questions**Topic Talk**

1. Define the following words: *showcase, arid and sustainability*
2. Which country is the biggest polluter in the world?
3. What kind of technologies was China using in the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics?
4. By using such technologies, what did China want to show off to the world?
5. How did environmentalists criticized their plans?
6. And what did officials in the Beijing 2022 Olympics claim about the snow generators they would be using?

Express Your Thoughts

1. Has your country hosted the Olympic Games?
2. How did your country prepare for the event?
3. Did your country use any special technologies that were environmentally friendly?
4. What is your country's attitude towards environmental sustainability? Does your country use mainly green technologies?